

Inside SOCCER

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CELTIC SPEED CHASE UP ON BOZZA

a big name
Inside Soccer EXCLUSIVE
by Alex Cameron
in Glasgow



Mark Bosnich: is the colourful Aussie on his way north to join Celtic?

AS reported in the last issue of *Inside Soccer* Glasgow Celtic have been monitoring Aston Villa's Aussie goalkeeper Mark Bosnich.

But now the situation has gone into overdrive with the word from the Parkhead HQ of the Scottish club that a formal offer to Villa is just around the corner.

"We have watched Mark Bosnich," confirmed Celtic manager Tommy Burns.

"He is a class player and Celtic are always interested in top players should they become available.

"But I can't say whether we have made

an offer to Aston Villa, there are official channels which have to be negotiated first."

Celtic recently were slapped with a whopping fine for an incorrect approach to Alan Stubbs.

In that case, Stubbs was brought to Parkhead through a non-accredited agent and the alarm bells are obviously ringing to avoid any similar breach of FIFA transfer regulations.

Meanwhile, the Celtic fans are still unhappy with the form of regular keeper Gordon Marshall who has now become a target for the boo boys.

Our source at the

Glasgow club denied that this is having any effect on Marshall.

"Gordon is a pro," he said.

"He is sure to rise above all this.

"He isn't the first player to be targeted by the crowd and he certainly won't be the last.

"Neither is he over-concerned about the stores concerning Bosnich.

"That is part and parcel of football and half the time it is just paper talk anyway."

But with Bosnich due back from injury shortly Celtic could well lodge an official offer within the next seven days.

INSIDE: Paul Wade: Is he finished?

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Socceroos push towards the top fifty

AUSTRALIA is amongst the big movers in FIFA's latest world rankings, moving up nine places from 61st to 52nd.

But the jump still sees the Socceroos one place below its end of 1995 ranking.

The recent Simba Cup win over Ghana, which is rated 19th, is almost certain to see Australia climb into the top 50 for the next FIFA issue.

A win in the forthcoming match against Saudi Arabia, which is ranked 42nd, would also help to consolidate Australia's push into the top 50.

South African TV commentators calling the Simba Cup match between Australia and South Africa rightly rated Australia a "top 30" team but the reality is that until Australia plays more competitive matches then that figure will remain a distant blur.

National coach Eddie Thomson has performed minor miracles in achieving the current status but now has two teams to manage; the home-based one and the overseas-based side - with only top flight competitive matches likely to see the two amalgamated.

Rankings as at 25 September

1st	Brazil
2nd	Germany
3rd	France
4th	Czech republic
5th	Russia
6th	Italy
7th	Holland
8th	Sweden
9th	Denmark
10th	Spain
20th	Japan
42nd	Saudi Arabia
50th	Thailand
52nd	Australia
55th	China
63rd	United Arab Emirates
66th	Iran
80th	Kuwait
82nd	Oman
84th	Qatar

Cosmos tahiti plans

CANBERRA Cosmos are in a frantic race against time to re-schedule their Ericsson Cup match against Newcastle Breakers to Friday November 1 in order to play a special curtain raiser for the Australia-Tahiti international to be played at Bruce Stadium that night.

"It would be a big boost for the club," said Cosmos Marketing Manager Bob Smoothey.

"It would obviously also help to build up the crowd for the international.

"We're hoping to get confirmation this week from Soccer Australia that the fixture is a goer."

A good crowd at the Tahiti international is seen as vital to Canberra's chances of staging any Olympic events at the 200 Games.

And in other news national coach Eddie Thomson has said that he will use mostly overseas based players

for the October 9 match against Saudi Arabia in Dhahran.

Thomson's line-up is likely to be: Kalac (Sydney United), Okon (Lazio), Muscat (Crystal Palace), Bernal (Reading), Kulscar (Antwerp), van Blerk (Millwall), Slater (Southampton), Lazaridis (West Ham United), Corica (Wolverhampton), Veart (Crystal Palace), Aurelio Vidmar (Tenerife).

Craig Moore has only just returned to the Glasgow Rangers first team squad after a four month absence caused by a broken foot and is still short of match fitness.

He has only played one game off the bench this season although he could be a contender for a berth in the return leg against Tahiti in Canberra.

Soccer Australia is also working on three other international fixtures against Bulgaria, Romania and Denmark in mid-November.

Soccer, Bloody, Soccer



SBS, the soccer station, takes a special peak into soccer politics this Thursday on its *Insight* programme when Ursula Malone examines moves to de-ethnicise soccer in Australia.

The game's detractors have labelled it 'wogball' maintaining the sport will never progress into the big league until it dispenses with any trace of its

The game's detractors have labelled soccer 'wogball'

ethnic origins.

And it's a call recently embraced by the NSL which is trying to

capitalise on soccer's undisputed national popularity among school aged players.

In *Soccer, Bloody, Soccer* Ursula Malone examines just how far Australia has really come in embracing its ethnic diversity through a game that can be seen as a microcosm of multicultural life in this country.

Her report also details the history of attempts to make soccer more 'acceptable' for mainstream promotion.

Ursula Malone's report also looks at the marketing opportunities for the soccer of the future and asks whether the removal of national symbols will change anything in the



Tommy Anderson: the controversial journalist is rumoured to be axed

minds of supporters out there in the grandstands.

And in other news concerning SBS it looks almost certain that *On The Ball* will retain its familiar Sunday timeslot.

"It was suggested that the programme move to Friday," said an insider.

"But SBS is reluctant to put soccer into one of its best rating timeslots.

"It looks likely that the programme will have a mini facelift though, and it seems that there will be some staff changes.

"The rumour mill has it that Tommy Anderson will be replaced and that a female presenter will come onto the show as anchorman."

On the Ball remains Australian soccer's

most popular programme and has been well received by the majority of fans - despite frequent clashes with Soccer Australia.

Tommy Anderson will be missed by many fans of the game, should the rumours prove true, with his readiness to lash into criticism of the powers that be a rarity.

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Summer collision

JUST weeks after the long running summer night series in Perth was ruled to be offside by the game's governing authority it now seems that the possibility of a collision between State and Federal federations is unavoidable.

Unconfirmed stories emanating from both Sydney and Melbourne indicate that both states will launch their own top competitions in summer time - with Victoria planning an early January launch of their 1997 season.

The New South Wales Super League is expected to kick off in the first week of February with both senior states now encroaching into areas once regarded as strictly the domain of the national league.

"Last season was an absolute disgrace in New South Wales," argued one Super League club president.

"We have to do something, and do it quick if we are to survive.

"I can't remember a worse season than we have just gone through.

"At some of our Super League games we didn't even attract fifty paying spectators.

"Maybe a total switch to summer soccer is what is needed."

And it seems that Victoria is planning to do just that with suggestions that the next Victorian Premier league season will finish in mid-year - and then recommence as a summer league.

"It is about time we all faced up to the facts of life," said our source close to the VSF.

"The feeling in Victoria is that winter soccer is all but dead other than as a junior sport.

"I am sure that if we switched to summer then our crowds would be up and it would certainly be more

Plans afoot to launch state summer leagues



Gary Cole: plea for summer league football

enjoyable than freezing your backside off on a cold and wet winter's day.

"It makes sense to align ourselves with the national league - but I am sure that there are still a lot of problems to be sorted out."

And on the eve of the Dockerty Cup final Altona Gate coach Gary Cole made a plea in the prestigious Melbourne Age for a major re-think about the soccer season.

"If the Premier League is to prosper, it needs more

spectators, but they won't come along in the coldest, wettest months," Cole said in an article by Laurie Schwab, regarded as one of Australia's top soccer writers. "We should kick off in October and play double headers on the best grounds, perhaps Saturday nights."

Should the main state leagues follow a summer path then it would also likely see a return to promotion and relegation from the national league.

THE BOY CAN PLAY A BIT

BURNING UP THE TRACK

SEAN BABIC is facing up to his first season at Marconi - and the dazzling speedster with all the skills to burn is sure to be a big hit with the Stallion fans.

"When I was a junior I was impressed with the skills of Ante Milicic," he said before moving across town to Marconi. "Ante is a great player and he had these long sideburns - so I grew mine long too."

Now the young spunk is set to burn up his own track - and form part of the potent Marconi attack.



Inside Soccer goes international

WITH plans to make Australia's top selling soccer publication weekly almost complete, *Inside Soccer* has taken another step forward - justifying its position as the number one soccer paper.

"Within the next few weeks *Inside Soccer* will be launched on the Internet," said ISO Marketing Manager Susan Houghton.

"We have had fruitful discussions with a top website publisher and this is an exciting step forward for us.

"Now we can take the best of Australian soccer to the world - and we are proud to be the first professional media organisation to do so."

Details of the *Inside Soccer Internet* service will be available in the next issue of soccer's top publication.

Spunks of Soccer

AT THE BACK POST

with Bruce Campbell



Big secret goes public at last

IT IS public record now, the biggest, worst kept secret in Australian sport is out.

Basketball is a dud.

That's right, a dud.

In fact, basketball is a multi million dollar dud.

That is why the sport of giraffes is switching to summer and kicking out a good few of its clubs.

It has been copping a hell of a hiding against the rugby and Victorian football codes for so long that it was either major surgery or euthanasia.

Basketball was dead on its feet - with the only thing keeping it going being the millions of dollars being poured into it.

Every game thousands of free tickets were being given away to try and prop up sagging attendances.

Now the guys who run that sport have decided to take on summer soccer in a last ditch attempt to grab their share of the sporting market.

But they will fail, and fail miserably. It isn't because Australian soccer is so well marketed - we all know that isn't true.

But it is because basketball has to now compete with Aussie soccer and the best of European and international soccer too. Even we can't do that successfully so what hope do they have?

And what about a chuckle on the official basketball magazine of the Australian league - it is jam-packed full of American stories, surely that's an indication of how poor the home

product really is.

So while the dribblers move out of the Gold Coast what do we intend to do? Nothing, probably - and that is a great pity.

Soccer needs to have a huge NSL footprint to capitalise on its junior base, a base which is untouchable in Australian sport.

It's no good thinking that the kids on the Gold Coast will support the Brisbane Strikers, they won't.

Instead they will switch their allegiance to another sport - or drop out altogether.

That is exactly what happened when Inter Monaro and Canberra Arrows were given the old heave-ho from the NSL. Thousands of kids just switched 'off. And now that the Cosmos are back in town the opposite is happening. With the amount of junior and schools coaching being down by Wade and Co. the kids are flocking back to soccer.

But I shouldn't have to say that, after all SocOz's CEO David Woolley came from basketball so he should know the score.

It's time to capitalise on the failure of basketball to transfer the American hype into home grown success.

And the only way we can do that is by broaching into *their* territory.

One real smart way would be to offer an Ericsson Cup franchise to a Gold Coast-based team.

Now that would be really good for the game.

Our SocOz

THERE is nothing that I hate more than do-gooders within soccer who tell me that *Inside Soccer* should be "more promotional". Why? Who are we being promotional for? My argument, and I think that our sales figures back it up, is that people who buy this publication are *already* converted to the game - what they want to read is what is actually happening, the behind the scenes material that other publications won't print. In short, the truth.

Having said that, and being well known as someone who doesn't mind having a shot at the establishment (if it is deserved) I really hate seeing the metro tabloids constantly niggling at the game. There is one buffoon in particular writing an anonymous piece in the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* under the Monday caption of Cross Lines. He is constantly having a dig at SocOz. One of his recent gems was a shot at media officer Steve Speziale for giving out Les Scheinflug's mobile number when Fluggers was overseas. The Tele obviously doesn't know that digital mobiles *can* ring internationally and that from a paper which is incapable of covering its soccer specialist when he goes on holiday.

Come on, give us a break Cross Lines, you stick to writing about league and I'll stick to bagging SocOz, but only when it is necessary - and I'll make sure that I get my facts right first.

How about more cards

FRANK FARINA is the best known player in the Ericsson Cup.

Of that there is no doubt.

He is also a very good ambassador for the game.

And, from the times I have spoken to him and interviewed him, he is a really nice guy.

But it still sucks that Frankie is going to escape the suspension he copped at the end of last season because of an anomaly in the rules which lets him serve it during the winter Queensland State league.

It also sucks that any player has to miss the start of one season because of a suspension he gets in the previous one.

I am one of these odd-balls who actually likes to see our best

players out there on the park.

For that reason it really gets under my skin when a player gets sent off.

Why can't he be replaced as happens in some other sports?

Why should the fare paying customer be the one who is deprived?

Soccer is a major entertainment industry and it is time that the Smurfs of Zurich got their act together and dragged us into the twentieth century - before the clock changes to another one.

What is wrong with three cards; yellow for caution, green for a second bookable offence - and then a red for an ordering off but being replaced from the bench?

Imagine the fun some of our refs would have



with that variety of Cup games would look colour to choose from - like the race track at some of our Ericsson Indianapolis!

WEEKLY LOGOS

JUST FOR the record Frankie Farina made his debut in the NSL for Canberra Arrows - not Sydney City as the editor of one soccer weekly publication mistakenly wrote last week.

The good news for long suffering fans is that *Inside Soccer*, the nation's favourite soccer publication, is almost ready to go weekly. Imagine, being able to read your weekly soccer digest without having to put up with full page logos - and papers not printing apologies for just how bad they are

COLLECTORS' ITEMS

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Wollongong Wolves are aiming for success this season

On and off the park



THIS Thursday sees the official launch of the Wollongong Wolves season, a season which sees so much promise.

Marketing Manager John Denison, who was an off-season 'signing' from Sydney Cosmos sees it as a boom or bust period.

"There isn't any doubt that this is an important season," he says.

"We have to be successful both on and off the park.

"And I think that we can do just that.

"Coach Nick Theodorakopoulos has signed some very good players and off the field we have a few goodies

in store for the fans.

"Our aim is to make nights out at Brandon Park really good entertainment.

"I've got a few things up my sleeve and I am sure that our first home game against Adelaide City will set the trend for the season."

Included in the new Wolves line-up are

former Morwell speedster Sonny Sevin, Vadim Mikoutsy from Sydney Cosmos, former Soccerroo George Haniotis, ball playing midfielder Michael Reda who has had spells at Parramatta, Adelaide and Morwell, and Kiwi

international Neil Harlock.

Harlock has seven full caps to his credit—despite being just 21 years of age.

Last season he played with champions Waitakere City and came to Wollongong on the recommendation of former Brandon Park favourite, Vaughan Coveny—now at South Melbourne.

The left sided midfielder is looking forward to big things with the Wolves and that is a feeling that both John Denison and Nick Theodorakopoulos echo and recent outings in the

Johnnie Walker Cup against Marconi suggest that they will trouble more than a few sides this year.

At the launch on Thursday the Wollongong side will show off its 1996/97 first team squad—and give a hint of the feast of entertainment in store for fans.

And in other developments at the New South Wales South Coast side Lord Mayor David Campbell has joined the Wolves board.

With expenses faced by Ericsson Cup clubs rocketing to new highs the Wollongong board

is aware of the tough times ahead financially.

This season the Ericsson Cup affiliation fee has been increased to \$40,000 per club and entrants also have to engage a full-time marketing manager.

The Wolves have posted a \$49,000 loss for the last trading year although income was shown as a sixty thousand dollar increase.

The heavy financial strain on Ericsson Cup clubs means that John Denison, and others like him, are now vital to the success of the game—success both on and off the park.

Breaker signs on with Johore

FORMER Soccerroo defender Darren Stewart has signed an extension with his M league club Johore which could see him play in Malaysia until the end of 1999.

The gifted player, who also helps out Newcastle



Breakers with guest spells in the M League off-season, has signed a one year extension with a one year option.

Stewart has been playing in the sweeper position with Johore as well as donning the captain's armband.

He also expected to make a re-appearance for the Newcastle Breakers after the Malaysian season is complete.

African Knight

FORMER Ghanaian youth international Ransford Banini is trialling with Melbourne Knights—and reports suggest that the defender could land a contract with the Ericsson champions.

Banini came to Australia three years ago from Goldfields and originally linked up with Marconi.

However, after a short time in Sydney he was recommended to Melbourne Brunswick and became the youngest captain in the NSL after his \$50,000 transfer was completed.

Now he could be the first major signing of the new season for Knights coach Ian Dobson.

Major Merger

THE long talked about merger between Melbourne's powerful Italian backed State League clubs seems to be almost a certainty.

Bulleen Lions, which at one time wanted to go it alone with their unsuccessful NSL bid, are now set to team up with Box Hill Inter and Thomastown Zebras.

The new club could well play under the name of Melbourne United and reports indicate that the merger will be complete in time to allow the new amalgamation to take its place in next winter's Victorian Premier League.

Home ground will be at the Bulleen complex with a grandstand due to be built before the start of next State League season.

Toppy For Hong Kong

CANBERRA Cosmos player Toplica Popovich is set to fly out to Hong Kong for signing talks with the Happy Valley club. Last season Popovich was one of the surprise finds from local soccer and made an impact in the Ericsson Cup in his first season.

And brother Njegosh looks unlikely to be with the Cosmos this season either after having rejected terms recently.

"I'd like to play," he said, "but the terms on offer weren't acceptable."

West Aussies plan breakaway

THE ruling body of soccer in West Australia has reacted quickly to plans by twelve of that state's leading clubs to form their own breakaway league.

"The top twelve teams in WA had held secret talks," said a club source.

"The intention was to set up their own league with all costs maintained by the clubs—and all profits going directly back to them.

"It looked definite but the latest move by Soccer West Coast

"The intention was to set up their own breakaway league"

might just be the answer the clubs were after anyway."

In a move seen as a block to the clubs' plans SWC has advertised for entrants in a new professional super league. The original breakaway clubs are said to include Sorento,

Floreat, Spearwood, Inglewood, Stirling, Perth, Bayswater, Western Knights, Joondalup, Swan, Kingsway and Fremantle City.

The SWC plans, however, would cater for the semi-pro clubs with the additional set-

up of an amateur league.

This would see the scrapping of the second division competition with the likelihood of a two-division professional league.

Discussions are expected to continue between the league and

clubs over the next few weeks although the latest move by SWC is sure to prove a temptation to clubs who would hear only of breakaway as recently as six weeks ago.

An official announcement is expected shortly.

On the move

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS deserve their favouritism to snare another Ericsson Cup – with much of the reason being the brilliance of Soccerroo keeper Frank Juric.

But Juric (pictured above in league action against South Melbourne) is hotly tipped to be on his way overseas.

Already several Japanese clubs have shown interest in the Somers Street custodian with word from Melbourne indicating that he might also be on his way to a TOP Croatian club.

With former team mates Mark Viduka and Steve Horvat doing so well in Europe it might be that Juric joins them – sooner, rather than later.

Matt Green



Career Vacancies

Duntroon Publishing

is Australia's leading soccer media house, producing periodicals like *Inside Soccer* (for the Inside Soccer Organisation), club magazines for Marconi Fairfield, Sydney United, Morwell Falcons and South Melbourne as well as supplying editorial content for *Soccer Australia* and international match day magazines.

Additionally, last season Duntroon Publishing produced a series of three radio programmes; *Boots 'n' Balls* (a magazine programme), *Soccer Rap* (a national round-up) and *Match of the Day* (a live call programme).

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Wolves might surprise

THIS season's Ericsson Cup is sure to be very interesting and, as usual, there is bound to be at least one surprise packet.

"If I had to pick the dark horse then I might just plump for Wollongong," a leading sports better told *Inside Soccer*. "They have signed a few good

players, but it is still early days and you'll have to see how they gel.

"Of the Sydney teams, Marconi are slightly stronger, so are UTS Olympic while Sydney United look to have a few problems.

"Melbourne Knights seem to be much the same while South

The Betting Man's Guide to the Ericsson Cup

5/2	Melbourne Knights
7/2	Marconi Fairfield
4/1	UTS Olympic
6/1	Adelaide City
	South Melbourne
10/1	Brisbane Strikers
	Sydney United
16/1	West Adelaide
20/1	Wollongong City
50/1	Collingwood Warriors
60/1	Perth Glory
80/1	Canberra Cosmos
100/1	Newcastle Breakers
	Gippsland Falcons

Melbourne have recruited heavily.

"That doesn't always guarantee success – but it is an indication that they mean business.

"Then there is Adelaide City. But my advice – keep your money in your pocket because there isn't any value just now."

in the *NEXT ISSUE* of
inside
SOCCER

ON SALE
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- * Ericsson Cup results
- * Paul Wade – fighting back
- * World Cup round-up
- * PLUS all the BIG Euro action

AUSTRALIA'S TOP SELLING SOCCER PUBLICATION

Last season South Melbourne went through the wars. Despite winning the Dockerty and Johnnie Walker Cups they struggled and after eventually missing out on the Top Six sacked coach Frank Arok. Now new coach Angie Postecoglou hopes that they are back on the glory trail with

NEW IDEAS AND STYLE

by
Melina Boursinos

AS THE beginning of the 1996/97 season approaches, there is one man who has his sights set on a bigger and brighter future for his beloved club.

From the days he arrived at Middle Park,

wanted to because of injury, I couldn't be happier."

After the sacking of veteran coach Frank Arok, the supporters were hoping for a new face, a high profile name who could reproduce the glory for which the Blues were famous.

of the club.

"I know what South Melbourne supporters are like," he says, "but if the team is losing it could be Kevin Costner and they still wouldn't like him. Hopefully I'll win them over - I know I will."

There is no doubt that the Lakers have the

he has grown up at the club and he knows the pressures of the soccer world, which he believes is his greatest asset.

"You can take someone like Frank who has had all the experience in the world, as opposed to someone like me who knows the club so well, has a claim of respect and has some new ideas."

The question, of course, is whether he is capable of introducing

an exciting style of soccer which will suit the team and entertain the crowds.

"I want the team to play an exciting, fast and hopefully productive game, which the club has been synonymous with in the past," he explains.

"My main aim is to get to the finals, if we get to the finals it means we've improved on last year."

It is evident that in order for soccer to

progress in Australia, former players have to be promoted to coaching positions, as they can motivate the youth to play with passion and determination - qualities which are slowly fading from the game.

"It's hard when people say that the youth should show the same passion as someone like myself or Steve Blair who have grown up at the club," states Angie Postecoglou.

"But I do want the players to play with pride and to be respected on the park."

"I don't want anyone to say, 'I don't think the team gave everything today'."

Now Angie Postecoglou, one of South Melbourne's finest, is endeavouring to achieve his ultimate goal and ensure that the club is remembered as one of the greatest in Australian soccer history.

I want the players to play with pride and to be respected on the park.

his dream was to wear the blue and white colours and represent the club which he greatly admired.

"I remember when my dad brought me down," recalls Angie Postecoglou.

"I was about nine and I always wanted to play for South Melbourne."

Now, at 31 years of age, he has not only captained South Melbourne's championship winning team, but has also recently been appointed coach of the newly named Lakers.

"It's been a dream of mine since I started," he said. "I've had a good career at South Melbourne and apart from quitting before I

So, naturally opinions were divided regarding Angie's ability to fulfil the position.

"Obviously the club could have gone in two directions," claims Postecoglou. "They could have got another high profile coach - but they had already tried that with Frank. This game is about opinions and if I was a supporter I would probably feel the same way."

At a club such as South Melbourne, the fans never settle for anything but the best and their expectations are high.

Angie Postecoglou's most difficult task is to gain the respect of the public whose support is essential to the success

talent to be number one, but there seems to be a piece of the puzzle which is yet to be found.

Postecoglou feels that there needs to be a combination of youth and experienced players in order to mould a solid squad which has depth.

"The bottom line is, the team wasn't good enough last year," he says. "There were a lot of young players who let the pressure get to them when things weren't going well and they had to play in front of five to ten thousand people. It's part of the learning process."

Although Angie Postecoglou does lack coaching experience,

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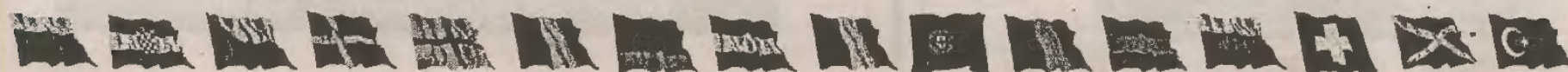
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Soccer Marketing

with Cec Bucello

Cec Bucello is a former Marketing Manager of the Australian Soccer Federation. Soccer marketing is one of the most talked about, and mis-understood, subjects in the game. This is the first in a series of five columns on the subject. Cec Bucello is now a freelance marketing consultant and can be contacted on (02) 9686 7020.

PART 2: Cable Television

IN THE last edition of Inside Soccer, we touched briefly on the question of using commercial television as a marketing tool and pointed out how unrealistic most casual observer's expectations are.

Additionally, we looked at the ongoing issue of whether Soccer is better off with SBS or moving to a commercial television station.

In this edition we will look at pay television and its likely effects on Soccer.

WHY PAY?

Like many people, when pay television was first mooted for Australia, I quickly stated: 'Why would anyone want to pay for what they are now receiving for nothing?'

Yet here I am now happily watching pay television and being constantly amazed at how much Soccer I can choose from.

In a way, what I originally said was correct because what we are now receiving on free to air television is nowhere near as good as what it was two to three years ago.

Sport has remained more or less the same but nearly all other programming has deteriorated.

Repeats

Movies are nearly always repeats and even most of the series are repeats.

Why is this?

Did you know that the commercial television networks own large chunks of the pay television stations?

Whether rightly or wrongly, the best movies and sport except for events on a Government restricted list are now on pay television.

The pay television marketing companies are using all of their marketing and competitive skill to make us subscribe.

The new subscriber arrangement offered by Optus Vision for example was too good to be true.

No wonder that they

have stolen the march on their opposition even though they started late.

Optus recently announced that they had over 100,000 subscribers.

However, this is only in Sydney and Melbourne so they still have a long way to go.

Profit Earner

Optus Vision are looking forward to the time in the near future when they will be able to offer telephone services, Internet, banking and other interactive facilities on their cable network.

This will be their real profit earner.

So why pay?

Because Australians are besotted by either or both seeing the latest movies without commercials and or seeing top sporting action live without commercials, that's why.

The choice of stations, movies, news and sporting programmes is so great that it is hard for most armchair movie buffs or sports fans to resist.

This is where Soccer comes in.

Taking Advantage

For a change, something has happened which is outside soccer's control that is decidedly to the game's advantage.

Pay television is an absolute boon to the future of Soccer in Australia.

Firstly, because of the need for local content and the considerable air time that needs to be filled with good material, soccer was bound to gain from being such a major international sport.

Having at least one station dedicated to sport meant that there were 168 hours to fill every week.

Pay television companies went looking for material and the National Soccer League (Ericsson Cup) was the first winner.

Luckily, existing Soccer Australia contracts with free to air

specifically excluded pay television rights.

Soccer Australia was therefore able to go out to the marketplace and sell to the highest and best bidder.

Here, David Hill's expertise came to the fore and Soccer Australia was able to benefit from an excellent financial arrangement as well as many hours of exposure every week.

Soccer-starved fans were all of a sudden able to see live Ericsson Cup matches on Friday and Saturday nights as well as repeats and packaged highlights programmes throughout the week based on Australian soccer whereas before all they had was a one hour panel programme and a one hour highlights package.

However, while this is good for the converted fan, the other real benefit was the availability of soccer from many parts of the World.

Here, the non converted fan is likely to look at some of this because there is so much of it and get hooked.

It is sad to say, but there are probably more fans of English Soccer in Australia than there are fans of Australian Soccer in Australia.

Optus Vision, realizing this, arranged to have an English Premier League match broadcast live in Australia and found it to be so popular that they now bring in a second match also from the Premier League.

They also have Brazilian Soccer, Dutch, Major League Soccer from the USA, World Cup Qualifying matches from Europe, the UEFA Champions League, World Football Report, European Football Weekly, Football Weekend, Latin Football weekly, Johnnie Walker Cup Matches, Socceroo matches, English Premier League and Game of the Week-Soccer Special.

To compete with this, Foxtel, through their

Association with Galaxy, have the German Bundesliga, the Spanish League, selected World Cup Qualifying Matches, Serie A and the Italian Cup, UEFA Cup matches, Cup Winners Cup matches, the French League, Scottish League, English Division 1 and special events such as the Charity Shield from the UK.

Mind Boggling

The choice is mind boggling.

These lists may sound impressive, but it is not until you look at a programme guide for any particular day that you realise just how big it really is and how many hours of viewing we are really talking about.

For any pay TV subscriber who is into sport, it will be virtually impossible not to see the huge impact that soccer has on world sport, particularly when the other winter football codes end and the amount of soccer shown will increase even more.

Here, if only subconsciously, soccer will create its greatest impact and win its greatest number of converts on the principle that billions of people around the world can't be wrong.

The names of overseas stars in future television will now be recognised and our own players' exploits overseas will also be seen and appreciated.

This will make the marketing of international fixtures easier in the cities receiving pay television.

AC Milan

When AC Milan came to Australia with players valued at nearly \$100 million, the majority of the general Australian media knew nothing about them, despite the fact that no other sport had ever seen such a highly valued array of talent.

One player alone had just been purchased for \$26 million.

Now, by comparison,



Australian players such as Mark Bosnich, Robbie Slater, Aurelio Vidmar, Paul Okon and Ned Zelic will draw crowds and the media because their exploits overseas are seen on pay television.

The extensive soccer coverage on pay television will also make it very obvious to potential sponsors that the world does not revolve around Australian Rules or either of the Rugby codes.

If you're doing business on the world stage, soccer is the way to go.

Just ask the World Cup sponsors what it has done for their business and why they choose to continue to spend so much on major soccer events around the world.

Ericsson Cup clubs will be able to use their pay television exposure to help sell their shirt and ground signage.

Another by-product of pay television's

introduction was the establishment of the ATVI television network by the ABC.

This network transmits selected Australian programming to a large number of countries in Asia.

For the last three seasons, this has included the Australian soccer programmes seen on SBS.

It has also included other football codes, however, these have been of little interest except to the small number of expatriate Australians that see them.

Popular Soccer

The soccer programmes, on the other hand, have proven to be the most popular sport programme on the network as soccer is invariably the number one sport in the countries receiving the programmes.

It is amazing how well informed many Asians are on

Australian soccer through this programming.

Here again, sponsorship should now be easier because of the additional exposure that Australian companies will receive in Asia through shirt and ground signage.

Additionally, Asian based companies having seen the programmes and wishing to expand into Australia and other parts of Asia, now have a new avenue to do so.

In summary then, Hail Pay Television!

In the next issue, I will look at 'Club Marketing' or how to increase your crowds without spending a great deal of money.

If this interests you, then be sure to buy the next edition of Inside Soccer. In the mean time, if you have any thoughts on the Television Issues covered, please drop me a line.



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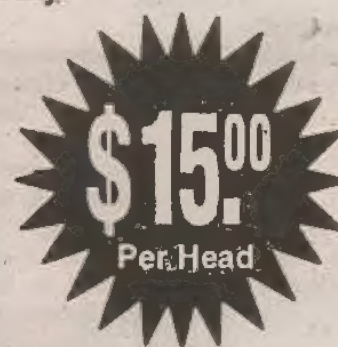
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Is it all over for Captain Socceroo?



Paul Wade leads out the Soccerroos – but is Alex Tobin, the man behind him, now carrying the arm band as a permanent duty?

PAUL WADE is Captain Socceroo for the majority of Australian soccer fans, but a recent run of injury has put a question mark on the midfielder's future in the national team.

Now the knockers are lining up to see his retirement.

And with his latest injury still seeing him a long way from peak fitness, maybe it is all over for the man who has worn the green and gold a record 83 times.

"No way," counters national coach Eddie Thomson, "Wadey is still part of my plans."

That should be some consolation for Wade but at the end of the day he still has a major mountain to climb to be fit enough to play against Tahiti on October 24.

But with the crucial intercontinental championship qualifier home leg to be played at Bruce Stadium, the home of Wade's Canberra Cosmos side, Thomson is sure to be aware of the crowd advantage if he plays the home-based international.

"Wadey is back in training," said Cosmos coach Mike Lyons before his club's trial game against Wollongong last Saturday.

"He's had a run with us and looks good – although he was stiff the next day."

"That's only to be expected but he'll be back – I've got no doubts about that."

And Cosmos team manager Tony Borgia backs up that judgement call.

"Wadey is the most committed player I have ever known," he says.

"If anything is down to guts and determination then he'll make it."

That guts and determination could see the Canberra Cosmos star pick up his 84th cap – with a busy run-in over the next eighteen months still giving him the chance to join that rarest of rare clubs, the international century makers.

Bruce Campbell



Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett presents the Antipodes Cup to the-then South Melbourne skipper – but soon Paul Wade was sacked by Arok and by the end of the 94/95 season was on his way to strugglers Heidelberg United.

PHOTO: Andrew Dawson



Cup Winners

AUSTRALIA CUP (1962-1968)

1962 Yugal 8
(Jelisavcic 4, Schwarz 2,
Nicevic, Pacanin)
St George 1 (Buchanan)
Sydney. Att: 11,000
1963 Melbourne Slavia 0
Melbourne Polonia 0
Replay:
Melbourne Slavia 3
(Palmer 3)
Melbourne Polonia 2
(Jurecki, Janczyk)
after extra time
Olympic Park, Melbourne.
Att: 10,000

1964 Sunshine GC 3
(Campbell, og 2)
Apia 2 (Falconer, Jaros)
Melbourne.
Att: 15,114

1965 Sydney City 1
Apia 1
Wentworth Park.
Att: 5,900.
After extra time and
14 penalties each side
taken.

Replay:
Sydney City 2
(Reid, Ninaus)
Apia 1 (Wong)
Sydney Showground.
Att: 3,500

1966 Apia 2
(Campana, Kerklaan)
Sydney City 0
Wentworth Park
Att: 10,200

1967 Melbourne Hungaria 4
(Abonyi 3, Stoffels)
Apia 3
(Blue, Watkiss, o.g.)
Olympic Park.
Att: 11,185

1968 1st Leg
Sydney City 3
(Baartz 2, H Rutherford)
Melbourne Hakoah 0
Wentworth Park.
Att: 3,400
2nd Leg
Sydney City 3
(W Rutherford, Baartz)
Melbourne Hakoah 1
Olympic Park.
Att: 2,850
Sydney City won 6-1 on
aggregate

NSL CUP FINALS (from 1977)

1977 Brisbane City 1 (Tokesi)
Marconi 1 (Sharne)
Perry Park. Att: 7,000.
Referee: Stewart Mellings
Brisbane City won in a
penalty shoot out after
extra time.

1978 Brisbane City 2
(Kelso, Pimblett)
Adelaide City 1 (Matic)
Brisbane

1979 Adelaide City 3
(J Nyskohus 2, B
Nyskohus)
St George 2
(O'Connor, J O'Shea)
Adelaide

1980 Heidelberg 0
Marconi 0
Melbourne
After extra time.
Replay:
Marconi 3
(G Byrne, Krncevic,
Sharne)
Heidelberg 0
Sydney

1981 Brisbane Lions 3
(Daunt, Ferris, Williamson)

West Adelaide 1 (Topaz)
Bruce Stadium

1982 Apia 2 (McBreen, Butler)
Heidelberg 1 (Campbell)
Melbourne

1983 1st Leg
Sydney Olympic 1
(Patalis)
Heidelberg 0
St George Stadium.
Att: 6,240
2nd Leg
Sydney Olympic 1
(Patalis)
Heidelberg 0
Olympic Park.
Att: 6,000

Referee: Chris Bambridge
Sydney Olympic won 2-0
on aggregate.

1984 Newcastle Rosebud 1
(Todd)
Melbourne Knights 0
Melbourne

1985 Sydney Olympic 2
(Soper, Raskopoulos)
Preston 1 (Cole)
St George Stadium.
Att: 6,147

1986 Sydney City 3
(Farina 114, 118, Kosmina
61)

West Adelaide 2
(L Hristodoulou 49, 112)
after extra time
Hindmarsh Stadium.
Att: 3,200

Referee: S Mellings

1987 1st Leg
Sydney United 1 (Slater)
South Melbourne 0
St George Stadium.
Att: 3,845

Referee: R Davies
2nd Leg
South Melbourne 0
Sydney United 1
(Arnold)

Olympic Park
Sydney United won 2-0 on
aggregate.

1988 APia 0
Melbourne Zebras 0
Marconi Stadium.
Att: 2,000
Apia won in a penalty
shoot-out after extra time.

1989 Adelaide City 2
Sydney Olympic 0
89/90 South Melbourne 4
(Taliadoros, Petersen,
Trimboli - pen, Tsolakis)
Sydney Olympic 1
(Edwards)

90/91 Parramatta Eagles 1
Preston 0

91/92 Adelaide City 2
(Mullen, T Vidmar)
Marconi 1
(Jones)
Hindmarsh Stadium.
Att: 3,102

Referee: Gordon Dunster

92/93 Heidelberg 2
Parramatta Eagles 1
Marconi Stadium

93/94 Parramatta Eagles 2
(og 42, Renaud 85)
Sydney United 0
Marconi Stadium.
Att: 4,156

Referee: Eugene Brazzale
94/95 Melbourne Knights 6
(Spiteri 32, 70, Horvat 52,
Biskic 81, Viduka 86, 87)
Heidelberg United 0
Olympic Park.
Att: 5,041

Referee: Eddie Lennie

Schaefer looking for the edge

THERE are a lot of anomalies about this year's Johnnie Walker Cup final.

Maybe the most obvious is that Marconi have seen more finals at their own stadium than they have actually played - much more, in fact.

Others which spring to mind are the obvious fact that Marconi has only lifted it once - and that was way back in 1980, while this is obviously new boys Collingwood's first ever tilt at the cup.

That in itself is a bit of an oddity; a cup final appearance in the club's inaugural season.

Statistically speaking, they haven't even kicked an Ericsson Cup ball yet so officially they have never even played in the national league.

Maybe you could put that down to the fact that few of the other clubs take the cup seriously - that might even account for Marconi's miserable record of only having played in two previous finals.

"That's a disgrace," says Marconi's coach Manfred Schaefer.

The big guy makes no

excuse about his bluntness, instead he puts his point across quite succinctly.

"This is a piece of silverware," he says, "it is a final and it is there to be won."

"We have to forget all about how other people treat the cup - I've already told my players that."

And in the other corner, yes there is another team playing, is the Collingwood Warriors.

Who, you might ask? But don't be fooled by their new-ness, Schaefer certainly isn't.

"Look," he says, "they have to be respected."

"When you know who is coaching them then that commands respect."

And in the caching hot seat of the first timers is none other than Zoran Matic.

The former Adelaide City boss has already had his hands on the cup twice in his previous life and he

shows an obvious fondness for collecting cups and shields.

Schaefer isn't fooled, neither will be his players.

"They've got a few useful lads in the team," he says.

"Lozanovski, Tapai, Taliadoros, Talladira - they all command respect."

"The Warriors will certainly be no pushover."

And Schaefer is insisting that the Stallions take the whole affair seriously by travelling down to Melbourne the day before and preparing properly.

"We're not going there for a trip to the casino," he says.

"This is our chance to win something and we'll try and wrap it up."

Schaefer, of course, has every reason to be defiant because on his last trip to Melbourne he came home empty handed.

That was in the Grand

1995/96 Johnnie Walker Cup Final

South Melbourne 3 (Coveny 22, 74, Panopoulos pen.)
Newcastle Breakers 1 (Hickman 49)

Venue: Bob Jane Stadium Attendance: 4,684 Ref:
South Melbourne: Petkovic, Blatsis (Anthopoulos 69)
Damianos (Nikolic 77), Trimboli, Petersen, Knezevic,
Frank Arok

Newcastle: Carter, Hickman, Halpin (Zane 80), Moon
Sprod, Stewart, Ritchie (Maier 50). COACH: John K
Yellow Cards: NB - Carter 11, Stewart 18, Moore 24
Red Cards: NB - Sprod 90, Moore 90

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THE 1996/97 NATIONAL CUP

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Collingwood Warriors

v

Marconi Fairfield



SEMI FINAL 1
Marconi Fairfield 3
Brisbane Strikers 0

SEMI FINAL 2
South Melbourne 1
Collingwood Warriors 3

QTR FINAL 1
UTS Olympic 1
Brisbane Strikers 3

QTR FINAL 2
Marconi 3
Newcastle Brkrs 1

QTR FINAL 3
South Melbourne 1
Melb Knights 0

QTR FINAL 4
Cgwood 0 (pens)
Adelaide City 0

MATCH A
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
UTS Olympic 1
Sydney United 0
10th September
2nd Leg;
Sydney United 0
UTS Olympic 1
13th October

MATCH C
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Newcastle Brkrs 7
NNSWSF 1
11th September
2nd Leg;
NNSWSF 1
Newcastle Brkrs 5
14th September

MATCH E
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Sth Melbourne 1
G'land Falcons 2
Att: 1,551
2nd Leg;
Gippsland Falcons
v Sth Melbourne
13th September

MATCH G
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Adelaide City 0
West Adelaide 0
15th September
2nd Leg;
West Adelaide 0
Adelaide City 1
18th September

MATCH B
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Brisbane Strikers 0
Brisbane Lions 1
Att: 649
2nd Leg;
Brisbane Lions 0
Brisbane Strikers 2
15th September

MATCH D
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Wollongong City 0
Marconi Fairfield 1
Att: 291
2nd Leg;
Marconi Fairfield 3
Wollongong City 1
13th September

MATCH F
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Canberra Cosmos 1
Melb Knights 2
Att: 766
2nd Leg;
Melb Knights 1
Canberra Cosmos 2
13th September

MATCH H
ROUND 1
1st Leg;
Collingwood 2
SASF 0
15th September
2nd Leg;
SASF 1
Collingwood 0
18th September

Flow chart design © Bruce Campbell, 1996.

1996 JOHNNIE WALKER CUP FINAL Marconi Fairfield

v

Collingwood Warriors

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at might just give
the edge - but don't
gest that to Zoran
ic.

Bruce Campbell

January 1996)

se: S Micallef
anopoulos, Kuzmanovic, Coveny,
aser, Alsopp (Lewis 69). COACH:

ames, Bennett, Thomas, Pryce,

thomas 40, Bennett 90

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Oct 12/13	Canberra v Marconi	Sydney United v Wollongong
Oct 19/20	Marconi v Collingwood	UTS Olympic v Canberra
Oct 26/27	Canberra v West Adelaide	Sydney United v Melbourne Knights

LEGENDS OF AUSTRALIAN SOCCER: #2

John Watkiss

Ten Grand Finals: a record which still stands

IN AN age before the advent of the national soccer league John Watkiss stamped his authority as one of the greatest players in the post-war era, an era when Australian soccer was arguably at its finest.

Known to his fans as 'Gentleman John', the big man was certainly no pussy cat.

He broke into the famous Canterbury line up in 1957 at the tender age of 16 and was one of a string of brilliant youngsters under coach Joe Vlasits.

Vlasits reared talents such as Watkiss and future national captain John Warren and became known to his players as 'Uncle' Joe.

And Watkiss, who started his career as a forward before moving back firstly to midfield and then into defence, rewarded his mentor by indelibly stamping his name on the Australian game.

On his debut for Vlasits's Canterbury

Kids, Watkiss scored against Gladesville.

In fact he looked destined for really big things but fate played a cruel hand.

His five month trial period with Wolverhampton Wanderers in England was cut short because Australia had been banned by FIFA over the infamous Austrian poaching scandal.

But back in Australia John Watkiss was set for really big things.

As a tall striker he had already appeared in the first ever NSW Grand Final in 1957 - and then went on to play in another three before moving to APLA in 1964.

In his first season with APLA, Watkiss set a sensational record - scoring FIVE goals in his new club's Grand Final romp against St George.

The following year Watkiss was back for his sixth Grand Final - and sealed that with another goal in his



'Gentleman' John Watkiss soars high to head away against Greece in Australia's first ever win against a European nation.

club's 2-0 win over St George.

Two other losing

Grand Finals followed before he moved on to

Hakoah (later to

become Sydney City) for a then huge fee of \$8,000.

Almost predictably Watkiss was back at the Sydney Sportsground that season for yet another Grand Final - his ninth - and again almost predictably he got his name on the scoresheet in Hakoah's 4-2 win over Pan Hellenic.

But St George, the team he had helped to haunt a few years earlier, were on the ascendancy and kept Hakoah in second status over the next few years.

In 1973 Hakoah were back on top and Watkiss was playing some of the best football of his career.

After a starring role for Australia in the

World Cup games against Iran, Watkiss was set for his tenth big day but a ruptured ligament in the preliminary final win against Marconi saw him sit that one out.

In all, Watkiss's nine Grand Final appearances stands as an all-time NSW record in those pre-NSL days but he was still to add another appearance when, as player/coach, he guided Sutherland to the 1978 Grand Final.

Twenty three full caps seem scant reward for a player who achieved so much at club level.

However, in all Watkiss played in three World Cup campaigns and there is little doubt that he would have topped the 50 cap mark

had it not been for the emergence of Manfred Schaefer.

Schaefer's partnership with Peter Wilson became a cornerstone for the Socceroos under Rale Rasic and Watkiss had to be content with playing second fiddle to the Iron Man.

Despite that he was probably Australia's best player on the park in the two World Cup elimination games against Iran in 1973.

But back came Schaefer and Watkiss slipped back in contention.

But at club level John Watkiss had carved himself a huge reputation and a justifiable place in the Legends of Australian Soccer.

When a Sydney journo gave Australia its soccer nickname

IN APPLYING the nickname 'the Socceroos' to our national soccer team the Australian sporting public has just followed one of its time honoured customs. To other, more established, sporting countries this practice seems strange, but it is an accepted part of Australian sporting life, and something which has added to the rich tapestry of Aussie sporting legend.

Rugby Union has the Wallabies, League has the Kangaroos, Basketball has the Boomers, but until the early '70s soccer, or association football as it is called in most other countries, had no nickname.

Then an imaginative Sydney journalist penned the name which has followed the Australian soccer team all over the world since. 'The Socceroos' were born. The fact that Australia qualified for the 1974 World Cup finals helped public acceptance of the name greatly - for the first time the

Socceroos' exploits were given widespread backpage newspaper coverage. In Australia the media - both electronic and print - has largely ignored the game of soccer, but it has always surpassed itself when the national soccer team gave it reason for more than the usual scant exposure.

Soccer was the first major sport in the country to embrace the concept of a national league, and even shifted its playing space to summer in order to counter the media-grabbing of other team sports like Australian Rules and Rugby League. But that hasn't worked, and the media continues to ignore the NSL - except for its token coverage which is squashed somewhere between the general results and horse racing. Soccer has its allotted place and it seems that, in club football at least, the back pages are reserved for more important affairs.

They still call Australia home

AUSTRIA

Gabriel MENDEZ (Admira Wacker)

TOTAL: 1

BELGIUM

Lorenz KINDTNER (Club Brugge)

George KULSCAR (Royal Antwerp)

Rodrigo PALOMINO (Waregem)

TOTAL: 3

CHILE

Eddie PENA (Universidad Catolica)

Andy VARGES (Colo Colo)

Dion VELLE (Colo Colo)

TOTAL: 3

CROATIA

Steve HORVAT (Hadjuk Split)

Josip SKOKO (Hadjuk Split)

Mark VIDUKA (FC Croatia)

TOTAL: 3

ENGLAND

Paul AGOSTINO (Bristol City)

Andrew BERNAL (Reading)

Jason van BLERK (Millwall)

Mark BOSNICH (Aston Villa)

Steve CORICA (Wolverhampton)

Chris COYNE (West Ham United)

Tony DORIGO (Leeds United)

John FILAN (Cambridge United)

Doug HODGSON (Sheffield United)

Scott HOUGHTON (Walsall)

Richard JOHNSON (Watford)

Harry KEWELL (Leeds United)

Jason KEARTON (Everton)

Brian LAUNDERS (Crystal Palace)

Stan LAZARIDIS (West Ham United)

Stuart LOVELL (Reading)

Steve MAUTONE (West Ham United)

Simon MIOTTO (Blackpool)

Shaun MURPHY (Notts County)

Lucas NEILL (Queens Park Rangers)

David OLDFIELD (Leicester City)

Andrew PETTERSON (Charlton)

Adem PORIC (Sheffield Wednesday)

Nick RIZZO (Liverpool)

David SEAL (Bristol City)

Robbie SLATER (Southampton)

Frank TALIA (Swindon Town)

Adrian THOMPSON (Walsall)

Carl VEART (Crystal Palace)

TOTAL: 29

FRANCE

Zlatko ARAMBASIC (Metz)

Ned ZELIC (Auxerre)

TOTAL: 2

GERMANY

Mark SCHWARZER (Kaiserslautern)

TOTAL: 1

GREECE

John ANASTASIADIS (PAOK)

Lou HRISTODOULOU (Panathinaikos)

Chris KALANTZIS (Olympiakos)

Mike PANOPOULOS (Aris)

TOTAL: 4

HOLLAND

Graham ARNOLD (NAC Breda)

Joe BACAK (Vitesse Arnhem)

Hayden FOXE (Ajax) - amateur

Tony VIDMAR (NAC Breda)

TOTAL: 4

ITALY

John ALOISI (Cremonese)

Paul OKON (Lazio)

Christian VIERI (Juventus)

TOTAL: 3

MALAYSIA

Josip BISKIC (Negri Sembilan)

Gus CERRO (Negri Sembilan)

Alan DAVIDSON (Pahang)

Mehmet DURAKOVIC (Selangor)

Aytak GENC (Johore PKNJ)

Scott OLLERENSHAW (Sabah)

Darren STEWART (Johore)

Peter TSOLAKIS (Negri Sembilan)

TOTAL: 8

PARAGUAY

Victor Cristaldo (Ilaves)

TOTAL: 1

PORTUGAL

Vlado BOZINOSKI (Pacos Ferreira)

Vasco TRPCEVSKI (Pacos Ferreira)

TOTAL: 2

SCOTLAND

Craig MOORE (Glasgow Rangers)

TOTAL: 1

SINGAPORE

Joe CALETTA

Ivan KELIC (Tiong Bahru)

TOTAL: 2

SPAIN

Aurelio VIDMAR (Teneriffe)

TOTAL: 1

TURKEY

Ufuk TALAY (Galatasaray)

TOTAL: 1

GRAND TOTAL: 69

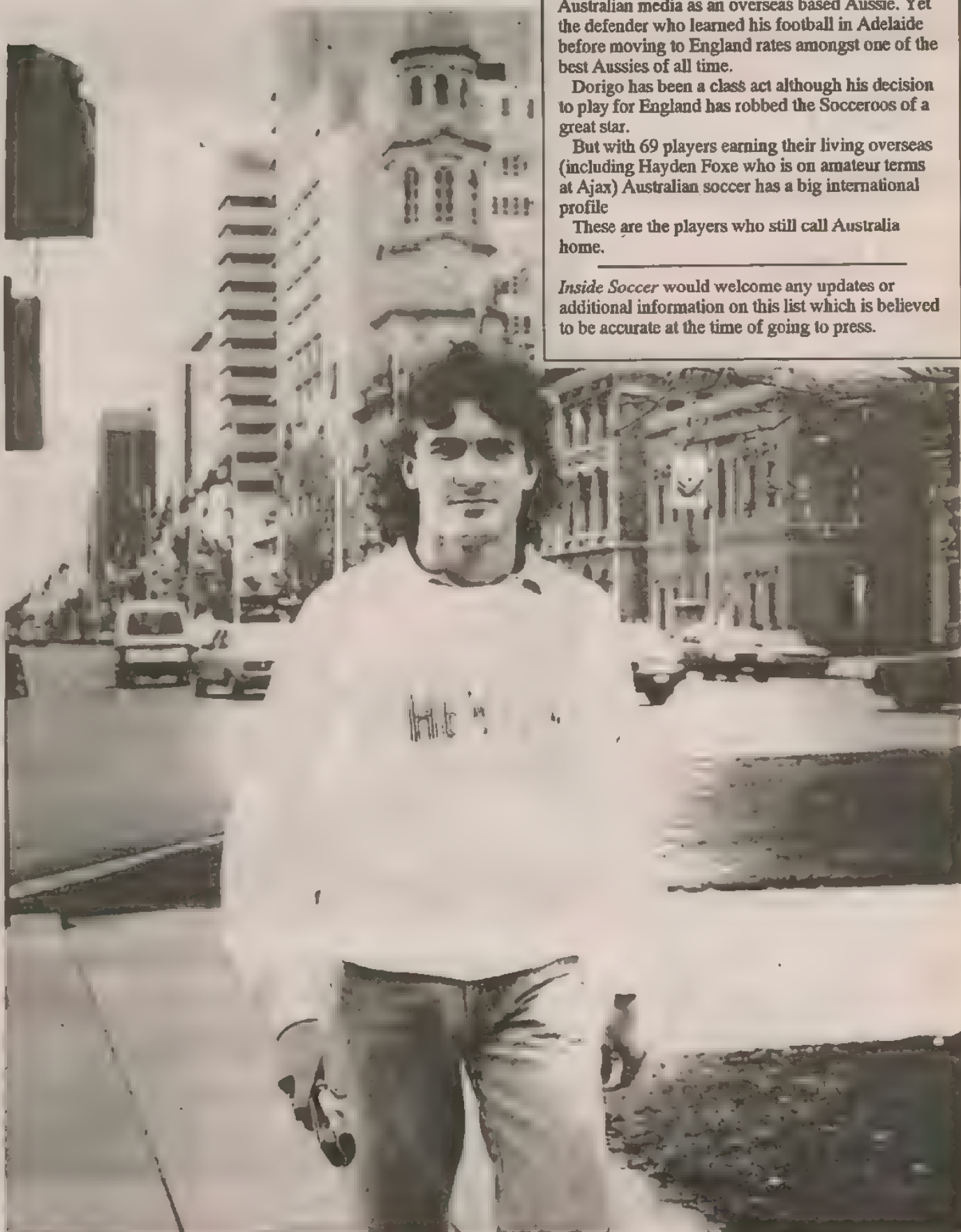
TONY DORIGO has been largely ignored by the Australian media as an overseas based Aussie. Yet the defender who learned his football in Adelaide before moving to England rates amongst one of the best Aussies of all time.

Dorigo has been a class act although his decision to play for England has robbed the Socceroos of a great star.

But with 69 players earning their living overseas (including Hayden Foxe who is on amateur terms at Ajax) Australian soccer has a big international profile

These are the players who still call Australia home.

Inside Soccer would welcome any updates or additional information on this list which is believed to be accurate at the time of going to press.



BIG STORIES - THE BIGGEST NAMES, *Inside Soccer*John White's
**LIFE'S A
BALL***Ram**proudly brought to you by*

HAVE you ever thought about the origins of soccer, have you ever considered the obvious links between rugby and the round ball game?

Looking at rugby from a historian's point of view, it is obvious in their method of scoring.

The try, which is now the principle point allocation, is only 'converted' after a goal is scored.

Other similarities exist in the line-out - which is our throw in, pure and simple, and our goal kick, which is the equivalent of a rugby kick off.

So what, where is this all rambling?

But persist with me for a few lines.

Over the last century soccer has had a great deal of refinement - while rugby hasn't.

We've put in crossbars, modified our 'hacking and kicking' rules and now we've even got the golden goal.

Soccer, through its guardians in Zurich, has also introduced the no back-pass rule.

Fine.

In the process we have sped the game up (allegedly), reduced the amount of foul play (definitely) and made life a lot harder for the goalkeeper (absolutely).

But we still persist with some of those tribal rugby plays.

Think about the goalkeeper's kick out - because that is what it is.

Instead of sticking to the stock and trade of soccer (and I use this term for the sake of clarity) and play possession football he reverts to the rugby method of playing for ground.

Stupid and senseless.

Imagine all of the hard work of a coach who works at his players to keep possession of the ball is spoiled every single time a keeper whacks the ball fifty yards.

OK, every now and then a counter attack can be launched and occasionally a very good goal is scored by the surprise element of a big kick out.

But, really, how often does that happen?

If that is such a genuine tactic then why doesn't every defender do that?

That could be a sight to see; Tony Popovic whacking seventy yard clearances to Dominic Longo at the other end and the two of them indulging in a spot of place kicking artistry.

The trouble is that some sneaky little midfielder (they used to be called inside



Damian Mori - he started the modern keepers' nightmare

forwards) would nip in and flick the ball into the net instead.

So why don't coaches get a grip of their keepers and get them to roll the ball out along the ground or settle for a simple fifteen or twenty yard pass instead?

Who knows, but I suspect that very few top keepers are actually any good at playing a man to man pass.

However, the no pass-back rule has changed all that.

Now keepers have to think as if they are an extra defender sitting behind the last line, not some kind of performing acrobat rooted to the goal line.

That they aren't very good at that - yet - has been proven by the amount of bomb goals scored in the last season over a stranded keepers head.

Maybe Adelaide City's Damian Mori started it all off with that wizard against John Perosh but since

then there have been countless keepers all over the world who now have nightmares of their own.

Over the next twelve months we will undoubtedly see keepers who can fit into the modern requirement with ease, we will see keepers who can judge space and time - and we might even see a few who can make a simple man to man pass instead of that mindless relic of the rugby age, the big boot out.

Brian Gollidge also spoke of the welcome upsurge in numbers playing at junior level in Canberra.

"The introduction of Canberra Cosmos has had a huge effect on junior numbers," he said, "and now it is getting back to the sort of numbers we enjoyed in the days of the Canberra Arrows."

Soccer in Canberra entered a slump when the Arrows were given the NSL boot in the mid eighties but the profile enjoyed by Cosmos stars like Paul Wade and Norman Kelly is starting to have its effect at all levels of local soccer.

ACT Minister for

Sport Bill Stefaniak also spoke of the numbers playing soccer in Canberra, citing the fact that there were more soccer players than all other codes combined.

Prenzoski is the first Queanbeyan City player to ever win the prestigious award and is tipped to have a big future. A former Young Socceroo, Prenzoski is currently being scouted by Canberra Cosmos.

And in other Canberra news the Cosmos have added former Canberra Arrow Steve Bryant to their coaching staff. Bryant will assist Ian Heywood in the assistant coach's duties.

Trajanovski
aiming for
World Cup
qualifiers

UTS Olympic welcomed back its Socceroos last week after an eventful sojourn to South Africa for the Simba Cup.

Kris Trajanovski, Milan Blagojevic and Alistair Edwards all had a run in the tournament where Australia played to big crowds and according to Trajanovski, played well.

"Milan and Alistair were basically used as overlapping fullbacks and both did very well," he said.

"Eddie Thomson played me as a striker where I partnered Warren Spink.

"I used to play with Warren at Preston some years ago, so it was good to renew our partnership."

That was Trajanovski's first full cap for Australia although he also played for his country at the World Youth Cup in Portugal in 1991 as a 19-year-old.

Assuming that he continues his form from last season, Trajanovski is likely to continue his appearances in future Socceroo squads.

"All I can do is to perform consistently for Olympic and hope that I get picked," he said.

"With World Cup qualifiers coming up, this will be an important season for representative honours."

With the return of the three senior Socceroos, however, Olympic coach David Ratcliffe lost both Brett Emmerton and Ivan Zelic to Les Scheinflug's youth team which has gone abroad for a month.

The success of Olympic's youth policy is certainly paying dividends with over 70 kids recently trialling for spots in Olympic's youth teams.

Training, however, remains a week to week proposition for Olympic.

Although Olympic will be playing at Belmore this season, the teams will not be permitted to train on the ground in order to minimise damage to the playing surface.

Although it is hoped that this restriction will be lifted in the future, Olympic's coaching staff are busily trying to secure an appropriate alternative training venue.

George Bramis

Prenzoski
takes ACT
award

NINETEEN-year-old Queanbeyan City midfielder Ilija Prenzoski won the ACT Player of the Year award at a lavish function at the Ainslie Football Club last

Friday night.

Prenzoski won the award from a star-studded local line-up which included Jason Dunn, Tony Giannasca and Joe Gaggetti - all players who have

appeared in the national league for Canberra Cosmos.

At the function, which was attended by ACT State and local government officials, ACT Junior President

Inside Soccer

the ONLY paper which carries the BIG stories in soccer

All Whites blood rookies on extended tour

KEITH PRITCHETT, New Zealand national coach, believes that his country's forthcoming tour of the Middle East will be one of the toughest faced in recent years.

"We can't under-estimate the seriousness of this tour," he says.

"All the national sides we are playing will be ranked above us on the FIFA scale so it is going to be hard but it is going to be a tremendous build-up and preparation for next year."

Saudi Arabia and Lebanon have both been added to New Zealand's tour programme which



commenced in Oman last Sunday.

The All Whites were originally scheduled to play against two club sides in Singapore on their way home from the Middle East but these have been relinquished in favour of the Saudi Arabian and Lebanon matches.

Pritchett is looking to use all of his eighteen players on the tour.

"The older hands like Wynton Rufer (pictured above), Darren McClellan and Captain Rodger Gray will use these matches to sharpen their skills but we also need to blood Nik Viljoen who is only 20 and players like Danny Hay and Jason New because in the back of our minds constantly will be the World Cup qualifiers next year.

And in other Kiwi news Joe McGrath, the recently appointed Technical Director of Soccer New Zealand has returned from an Oceania sponsored coaches convention in Europe.

"Seven of the eight top teams in the last World Cup were European," said McGrath, "so to keep that momentum going the UEFA National Coaches Convention spent a lot of time analysing and assessing the way the game is played in Europe.

"When you consider that all of Europe's top coaches attended this get-together you realise just how important it is.

"Attacking teams are going to make the game very exciting and that is what our aim in New Zealand will be.

"I believe we have the talent in New Zealand to achieve this and the result of this style of play, and the development of this line of coaching, will be more goals and more spectacular football.

"In the end this is what will create greater public awareness of soccer."

In December McGrath will give a one day seminar for coaches in Auckland which will be followed by a Level 3 course at Waikato University in January.

In October next year McGrath will attend the World Alliance of Coaches course in Athens.

Super League plans in disarray

A ROW is set to brew in New South Wales over possible changes to the Super League, the State's top winter competition.

Already the rumours are flying thick and fast concerning who will - or won't - be included in the league next season.

Top of the list is First Division club Ryde - even although Sydney Cosmos bolted away with the First Division League title.

And another contender is Canberra Deakin, a side which was unceremoniously shown the door just two seasons ago.

But not according to NSWFSF President Peter Gray.

Gray, whose board is under criticism for a shambolic 1996 season, says that the make-up of the league hasn't been decided yet - and that the rumours are just that, rumours.

"We certainly haven't made up our minds," he adamantly said last week.

"Sure, we have talked to a number of clubs and there are still some to be talked to yet but we haven't guaranteed anyone a spot - and won't be either."

That would certainly seem to dispel the rumours but not out in the eastern suburbs of Sydney.

There, Sydney Cosmos supporters are concerned that their club won't get the nod - despite spending a fortune this season.

Cosmos brought a touch of class to the First Division this year and were regarded as virtual certainties to go up even before the season started.

But a doubt over their playing region has thrown their chances into doubt.

"If Sydney Cosmos do come up then it will only be as

representatives of the eastern suburbs area," added Gray.

Recently there were suggestions that the runaway First Division premiers would expand their base by an amalgamation with Canterbury juniors.

Gray, however, has poured cold water on that possibility.

And with the federation seemingly eyeing up the vast northern area occupied by Ryde it seems that Sydney Cosmos have very real grounds for concern.

"There is just too much secrecy going on in New South Wales soccer just now," said one Cosmos supporter.

"Our club has complained about a couple of things that have happened this season and it seems that we might be made the scapegoats.

"But we satisfy all the Federation's criteria - why isn't that good enough?

"When we looked a possibility to go into the NSL they were saying what a marvellous club we were - now it seems that they can't back pedal quick enough.

"With crowds as low as they are in the Super

League and the pathetic way that they promote the game, who would really want to go up?

"Some would say that it is just a waste of money but you need to always strive for the top, there is no point in accepting second rate status."

A row erupted last month when Cosmos, who were drawn out of the hat first, were ordered to play their Waratah Cup match away at Ball's Paddock in Wollongong.

Now it seems that the club might be made to pay for their protestations - or at least that is what some of their supporters are thinking.

Gray also denied that any approach had been made by Canberra

Deakin.

"They certainly haven't spoken to me," he said. "I do not know of any bid by Deakin to enter Super League."

But in Canberra there is a widespread belief that part of the deal which will see Deakin become a stakeholder in Canberra Cosmos is an agreement by which the ACTSF would support their bid for Super League status.

And in Wollongong the talk is that the Fraternity Club will emerge as major sponsors of Port Kembla to the tune of \$300,000 - should they enter the Super League.

Officials of the NSWFSF have been critical of Illawarra Lions this season and are believed to have

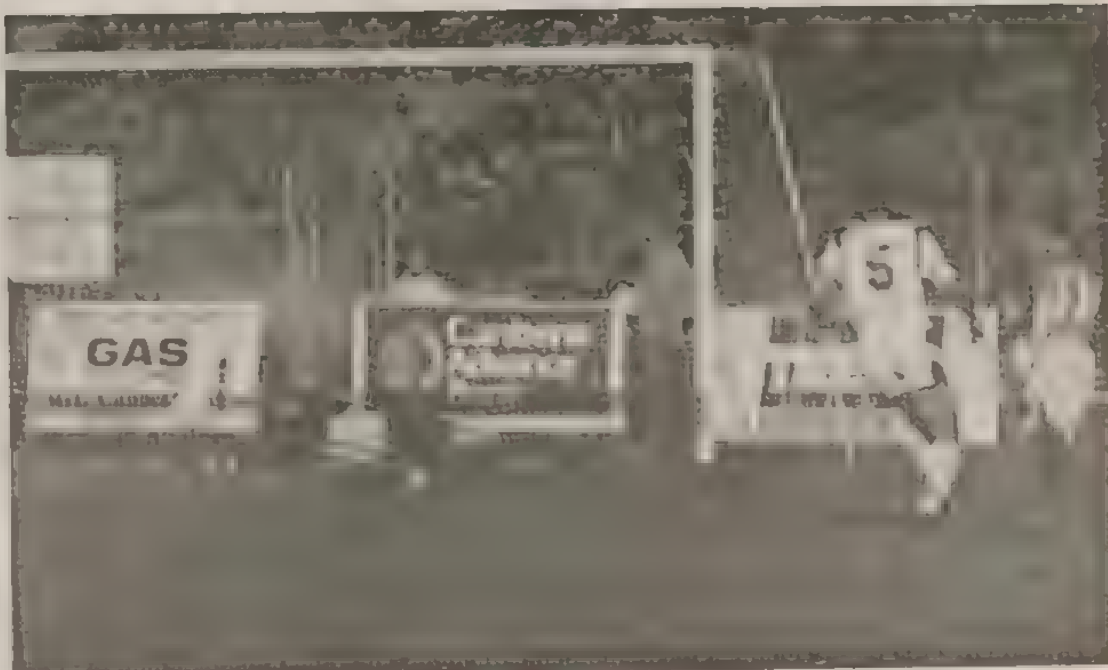
already had preliminary talks with Port Kembla regarding a move up from the ISA League.

Port Kembla, under the coaching of former Socceroo Adrian Alston, have established themselves as one of the leading clubs on the South Coast and should the Lions take the drop then they would be logical replacements.

But with at least seven existing Super League clubs in major financial difficulty there is the possibility of a lot of troubled waters yet.

To add to those financial difficulties was the disaster of the 1996 season split round set-up.

Bruce Campbell



Canberra Deakin: heading back to the Super League?

Bard takes award

LONG TIME Sutherland player Grant Bard took out the NSWFSF Gold Medal for Super League Best & Fairest at a function at the Bellevue in Bankstown last Friday.

Bard polled 27 points ahead of Eric Williams (Rockdale City) and David Hayes (Macarthur Rams) on 19, John Buonavoglia (St George), Nikolce Joseski (Bankstown City) and Craig Thompson (Central Coast) on 17 points.

Referee of the Year was Simon Micaleff, goalkeeper of the Year was Jason Holmes (Parramatta Eagles).

Janine Mar was presented with the Keith Gilmour Award for journalistic service to the NSW Soccer Federation.

Looking for the best

another
Aussie expat
interview with
Fred Legget

FORMER West Adelaide star Stan Lazaridis, finally feels that the bad times are behind him and that he is now on the way to establishing himself in the elite English Premier Division.

The West Ham flying left winger had a lean time of it last season, and hit rock bottom when he suffered a leg break against lowly Grimsby in an F.A. cup tie.

There were those who thought that this would signal the end of Lazaridis time in the top flight, but the Aussie battled back and has been in startling form for the Upton Park side in recent weeks.

Now he is looking to repay the faith shown by West Ham boss Harry Redknapp, who stuck by him as he struggled to initially come to terms with the English game.

Said Lazaridis: "I found it difficult when I first arrived in England, and felt a little

out of things.

"The climate was different and the lifestyle was different, and it took me a little time to get used to it, but I was just glad to get the chance to play in England.

"Having said that, I have to admit that last season there were times when I felt I should just pack up and go home.

"It was a hard transition to come over to England and play in the Premier League, after having been a part timer with West Adelaide.

"The pace of the Premier League is one of the quickest in the world, and you have to react a second quicker than you do in Australia.

"Originally it looked like I was going to leave Australia for Greece as there was a club in Athens who were interested in taking me on, but luckily enough I performed well against West Ham in their pre-season tour of

Australia 16 months ago and they signed me up.

"If West Ham hadn't come to Australia, you never know what might have happened, but the chance to play in the Premier League was a dream.

"It is one of the major leagues anywhere and now there are so many great players from all over the world coming here to play.

"How can anyone refuse that sort of opportunity?

"I'm not getting carried away, but I don't think people have seen the best of me yet.

"I feel that I've got a lot more to offer but I'm also aware that there are a lot of good players at Upton Park and when the full squad is fit, competition for places in the first team will be immense.

"It's still very much a learning process for me, and I look at players like John Barnes, Robbie Fowler and Ryan Giggs and try

to take things in their skills, their abilities to get past players.

"Harry Redknapp showed a lot of faith in signing me in the first place and stuck by me last season when things weren't going too well, and I'd like to repay him.

"Hopefully I can do a job for the team, for Harry Redknapp and for the fans."

Lazaridis was voted man of the match a couple of weeks ago against Nottingham Forest, and had already attracted the interest of Southampton manager Graeme Souness, who enquired as to his availability at the start of the season.

Souness was disappointed to meet with a 'not for sale' answer, and now it seems that the classy former West Adelaide flankman is set to establish himself in one of the hottest leagues in Europe.



at home in Adelaide with former Shark team-mate Jose Mariarte

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Paolo pans Sacchi

PAOLO Rossi, Italy's hero of their 1982 World Cup triumph turned 40 recently, and celebrated his birthday with a plea for more excitement in a sport he no longer enjoys.

Rossi, whose 6 goals at the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain guided Italy to victory retired at the age of 31.

He is now a property developer in Vicenza, and prefers to go horse riding and scuba diving in his spare time to watching the game he once played with such passion.

Although Rossi does still watch his local side Vicenza, he clearly believes the Italian Championship has lost its way.

Speaking to the *Gazzetta dello Sport* on

"I don't like his way of playing - I can't remember a single great game played by his team."

Sunday he said: "I hardly enjoy it at all.

"It's a game of constant harrying, of tactics, of teams playing a short game within a 20 metre area.

"Players with creative ability are being sacrificed. The World Cup two years ago was a disappointment and the recent European Championships were a bore, with 10 matches being decided by penalties.

"There's no room for

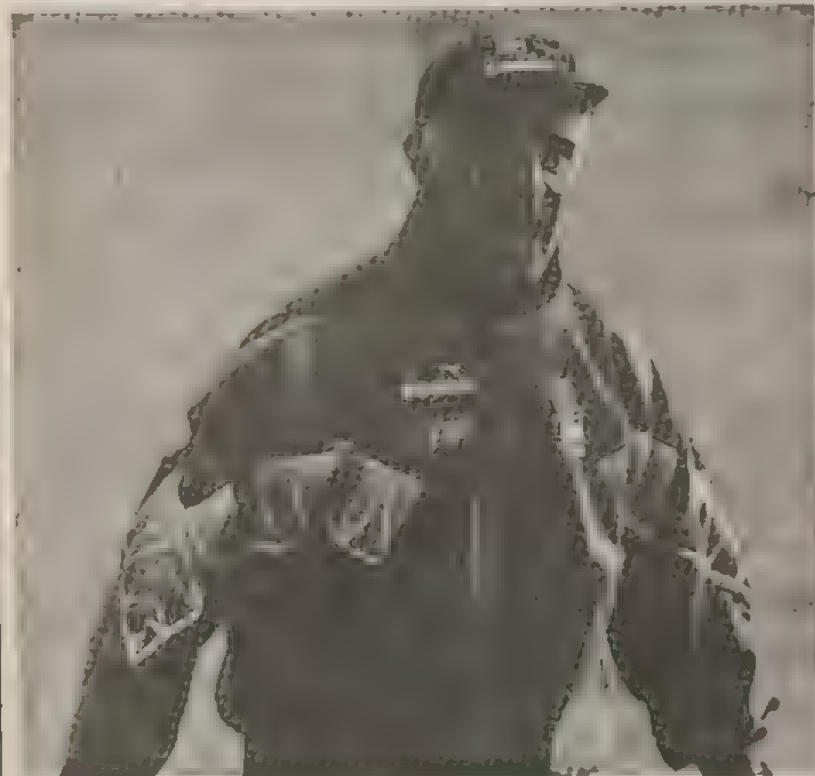
goals anymore.

"Something has to change, like the offside rule."

Rossi was no kinder to Italy's unpopular national coach, Arrigo Sacchi and said that his system over rules everything else.

"I don't like his way of playing," he said.

"I'm not doubting the fact that he is a solid coach, it's just that I can't remember a single great game played by his team."



It's the documentary that Rangers and the Scottish League tried to censor

Gascoigne film set to rock Britain

by
Peter Jardine

BRITISH TV station Channel 4 have vowed to screen an hour-long insight into England soccer maverick Paul Gascoigne - despite objections from his club, Glasgow Rangers.

The Scottish champions gave Chrysalis Productions, makers of the controversial Cutting Edge documentary on former England soccer boss Graham Taylor, the freedom of Ibrox to prepare a fly-on-the-wall profile of their £4.3 million record signing.

But last week Channel 4 rejected requests for cuts by Rangers to the film which takes a controversial look at Gascoigne's life.

In *Gazza's Coming*

Home the footballer reveals how he;

* was threatened by a motorist after mimicking playing the flute in a pre-season friendly

* light-heartedly

described the Scotland international team as "sheep shaggers" after the Euro 96 draw paired them with England

* was dropped for a match by Rangers manager Walter Smith who refused to speak to him for "about 10 days" after he was caught drinking before a game

* missed the birth of his son Regan

Rangers were passed a copy of *Gazza's Coming Home* after it was sent to the Scottish Football Association by Chrysalis.

And late last week Rangers Commercial Manager Bob Reilly said: "We gave

Chrysalis access to the

stadium for the film and we thought in the spirit of such an agreement we would be granted approval rights for the film.

"As it stands we have no legal right.

"The SFA were sent a cassette for their perusal and like us they felt there were some items which would have best been left out.

"There is a lot of swearing in it.

"We told Chrysalis we weren't happy with one or two items and we asked those to be edited."

But Chrysalis have declined, with the uncut film due to be screened next Monday.

The film begins by rewinding to May 1995 when Gascoigne was set to leave Lazio after a three-year spell which was marred by injuries.

With Rangers, Chelsea, Leeds and Aston Villa in the

bidding for the star, his manager, Mel Stein, reveals how the Scottish side were the favoured option because Gazza would be "out of the firing line in terms of England".

On the flute-playing incident, which came after Gascoigne scored his first goal at Ibrox in a friendly against Steaua Bucharest, the film alleges team-mate Ian Ferguson put him up to it.

The star said: "People just wanted to kill us.

"They were actually going barmy.

"You know, one guy stopped his car and he just looked and he said: "Gazza you just watch what you're doing up here, be careful mate because I'll slash your #@\$ throat."

The film also alleges that Rangers striker Ally McCoist missed out on a bonus of £12,500 when there was a change of plans

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Robson bound for Parkead

GLASGOW Celtic are negotiating with Spanish giants, Barcelona to play a friendly at Parkhead - because they feel that games in the Scottish Premier Division alone does not prepare them well enough for European competition.

The Glasgow side hope to bring Barcelona to Scotland on October 5th - a free day because of Scotland's World Cup commitments in Latvia.

It would mean a return to Britain for former Ipswich and England boss Bobby Robson who took over at Barcelona this season.

Celtic, who are still waiting for approval from the Scottish Football Association and police to stage the match, say they want the game to give their stars more experience against top class European opposition, after having been

Celtic vow to play against the best in Europe



eliminated from the UEFA Cup quite convincingly by German side, Hamburg.

"Celtic intends to improve its ability to do

well in Europe," said managing director Fergus McCann.

"Playing clubs like Barcelona can only be beneficial to our first team squad."

"The match would be an excellent attraction for all fans of good football in a period when we have no home games for three weeks."



over a substitution in Cyprus against Anorthosis Famagusta in the Champions' League preliminary round tie.

And it claims Gazza was dropped by Walter Smith around November last year after drinking before a match.

He said: "I think the night before the game ... I had a couple of beers or something."

The soccer star said he owned up when quizzed by the Rangers boss, telling him that the constant media attention was starting to affect him.

"I could have said 'No' but I said 'Yea' and he dropped us, and he didn't speak to me for about 10 days after that."

On a trip to London to film a commercial with Gary Lineker, Gascoigne recalled his earlier days.

"I come from a very tough background," he said.

"We had to scrape for every penny we had."

"I had holes in me shoes."

"I couldn't do PE lessons at school because I didn't have this and that."

And Gazza, thought to earn at least £10,000 a week, reveals in the

Cutting Edge programme how he still tries his luck on the lottery.

"I would stop doing all this if I won the lottery," he said.

At one stage last season Gascoigne also revealed that he was ready to quit Scotland after he received a number of yellow cards from referees but later changed his mind.

In December, the Euro 96 draw paired Scotland with England.

In a scene in the film Gascoigne says: "Scotland is not an international team - it's a mix of sheep shaggers."

Gazza also labelled four players - current Rangers captain Richard Gough, Gary Mabbutt of Tottenham, David Platt of Arsenal and Gary Lineker - as "goody two shoes," but adds: "The four of them are brilliant, really top class professionals."

On missing the birth of his son Regan, Gascoigne said he "went out with the lads on Friday night" and left a message on the answerphone.

"And when I got back on the Saturday morning, she wasn't happy at all, and obviously, I had done the wrong thing by

going home.

"You know that night she could have went into labour and I was probably that drunk I wouldn't have knew you know, so I can see her point."

"I was with the whole team, the whole team was there and they went there for three days as we weren't playing until the following Sunday."

"So we went there for three days, the whole team."

"I said I can stay one day because obviously I've got to be back with Sheryl and, er, you know, maybe one day, one day too much."

"I should have stayed and I should have went to the hospital."

"But I don't think I'm the first person in the world to miss the birth of their kid."

The film also features footage of Gascoigne's hat-trick against Aberdeen which clinched the Scottish Premier Division championship for Rangers last April in the second last match of the season.

And there is footage of his summer wedding to long-time partner Sheryl.

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ARSENAL EYE WEAH

THE appointment at Highbury of French coach Arsene Wenger has given Arsenal a chance of luring A.C. Milan superstar George Weah to north London.

Weah was lavish in his praise of his former coach saying: "Arsene is the best coach I have ever played for and I would love to play for his team again in the future."

"He brought the best out of me as a footballer and I owe a lot of my success to him."

"When he gave me my first big contract at Monaco it was like being in heaven."

"I recall being the young African boy who grew up without any shoes in Liberia."

"Wenger always looked after his players so well."

It was at Monaco that the 29-year-old Liberian emerged as a world star.

He moved to Paris Saint Germain in 1992 and later joined Milan in an \$8 million deal.

Weah is contracted to Milan until the end of the season but Arsenal could strike it lucky because of the striker's attitude to his children's education.

His son, George Jr. who is 11 and his 12-year-old daughter Teeta live with their mother near New York and during his days with Paris St Germain, Weah would jump on a Concorde flight to New York whenever he had a few days free from football.

English is Weah's first language and he wants them to have an English or American upbringing.

"My wife and kids never stayed in France with me - I let my children grow up in America - and I want them to have an American or English background and upbringing," he said.

"I've struggled to learn Italian since I've been with Milan and it is very difficult to adjust when you don't speak the native tongue."

"I would love to play in an English-speaking country one day."

For his part, Wenger appreciates the way Weah has developed from his early raw days to the man who has been voted FIFA World Footballer of the Year.

"The perfect footballer does not exist but there is a small group of players in the world that come close to perfection and George definitely belongs in that group," said Wenger.

"He had not had the opportunity to be part of a good youth development programme - he's not from that kind of background."

"It took him longer to reach the top of his profession but he is superbly gifted, richly talented."

"George had African skills but is much more dynamic than many of the other African players."

"He's a fighter - a winner."

Now the Highbury faithful must wait and see if the bond between Wenger and Weah is strong enough to secure the talented black striker's signature on an Arsenal contract in a year's time.

Ten in a row - but the Celtic fans are laughing

RANGERS are on target for a record ten-in-a-row of Scottish League championships - after having already equalled the famous record set by their Glasgow rivals, Celtic. But so far the only record they have set is one of 10 Euro matches without a single win.

Rangers dominance in the domestic league was evident by their 2-0 derby win against Celtic at the weekend - still likely to be their only serious challenges for the Scottish title. But in Europe their results have been a painful reminder of their inability to rise to another level.

Auxerre's win at Ibrox last Wednesday set an embarrassing ten straight Champions' League games without

a single win - with their last victory being against Bruges at Ibrox way back in March 1993. And now their all-too slim hopes of making it to the last eight rest on back-to-back clashes with mighty Ajax of Amsterdam.

Only the most loyal of the Ibrox faithful would fancy their chances in those games.

Last season when the 'Gers had to face Juventus in a similar fortnightly home and away encounter they came away pointless and two humiliating four-goal thrashings into the bargain.

Rangers manager Walter Smith is a pragmatist. "It is never a lost cause," he says. "You will always keep trying, but like last

season it is extremely difficult for us."

So far the Ibrox team is pointless after successive dumpings by Grasshoppers, the stars of the Euro show so far, and Ned Zelless Auxerre. In all of that they only have one Paul Gascoigne goal on the scoreboard.

"It was far better performance against Auxerre than in the first game in Zurich," said Smith. "We controlled the game for most of the 90 minutes but lost two bad goals."

"We maybe had a lack of subtlety in terms of finishing and a bit of poor defending cost us the game."

But Rangers were punished for their time honoured flaw - being caught out at the back by the skilful

continental counter attacking game.

With Rangers under a cloud of Euro depression Auxerre are on a high.

Stand-in striker Deniaud scored his first ever goals for the club and only had the opportunity to play because of injury to Lilian Laslandes.

"I was not expecting to play at all," he honestly said after the match.

"It was only after head-tennis on Wednesday morning that I was told that Laslandes would not be playing."

"When I stepped out at Ibrox I was trembling

because I have never played in a stadium like that before."

"We were under pressure in the opening 15 minutes but we became more confident and it was great to score twice. I couldn't believe that the Rangers defence gave me so much space."

"But I am only a reserve at Auxerre and I expect to be left out of the side when we play Grasshoppers in the next match."

Deniaud has seen loan spells with second division French side Angers and made his seasonal debut against Rangers - as the Ibrox nightmare continues.

**Euro Report is compiled by
Fred Legget**

LIVERPOOL STAR'S CAREER IN THE BALANCE

LIVERPOOL'S England international defender Rob Jones faces a lengthy spell out of the game, with doctors warning him strongly against a quick return.

Jones has been diagnosed with a crack in his spine, and doctors at a top orthopaedic clinic have warned that permanent damage could result if he returns from injury too

soon.

"I felt physically sick when they told me because football is everything to me," said Jones, who has been out of action all season.

"It has terrified the life out of me, and I am not allowed to swim, jog, play golf or even kick a ball about."

Liverpool manager Roy Evans is adamant that he will support his young star through this

difficult period for as long as it takes.

"Rob is a hugely talented boy and we are standing by him all the way on this."

"We are a caring club here at Liverpool and we will wait as long as it takes for Rob to make a full recovery."

"I hope to see him back in a few months, with a little luck."

Ferguson undergoes surgery

EVERTON'S wayward striker, Duncan Ferguson, has undergone surgery in an attempt to identify the extent of a knee injury.

The Everton and Scotland striker has been troubled by a knee problem for some time, and his club manager Joe Royle said that keyhole surgery was needed to assess the damage.

"It is not a serious problem, but Duncan has been playing with this for the past few weeks," said Royle.

"He has had investigative surgery on his knee to see how bad it is, and we will take it from there."

"The operation will mean Ferguson missing Scotland's world Cup games against Latvia on the 5th of October, and against Estonia four days later."

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INTERNATIONALS

UNDER 20 FRIENDLY

Argentina 2 Australia 1
Damianos

Lanus 5 Australia 2
Curcija 2

JOHNNIE WALKER CUP

QUARTER FINALS

UTS Olympic 1 Brisbane Strikers 3
Zelic 73 Bartistin 21
Att: 789 Brown 38
Brayshaw 40

Newcastle 1 Marconi Fairfield 3
Ironsides 75 Awaritefe 25, 37
Att: 382 Maloney 41

South Melbourne 1 Melbourne Knights 0
Curcija 12
Att: 1475

Adelaide City 0 Collingwood 0*
* won on penalties
Att: 850 (unofficial)

SEMI FINALS

South Melbourne 1 Collingwood 3
Marconi Fairfield 5 Brisbane Strikers 0

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

WARATAH CUP

FINAL
Sydney United 2* Parramatta Eagles 1
Milicic 2 Harding
* in extra time - golden goal
Att: 2,879

VIC SOCCER FEDERATION

DOCKERTY CUP

FINAL
Melbourne Knights 4 Altona Magic 2

WHAT'S ON

INTERNATIONALS

October 9
Saudi Arabia v Australia

October 24
Tahiti v Australia

November 1
Australia v Tahiti

JOHNNIE WALKER NATIONAL CUP FINAL

Sunday October 6
Collingwood Warriors v Marconi Fairfield

ERICSSON CUP

ROUND 1 (week-ending 13th October)

Adelaide City v Brisbane Strikers
Perth Glory v UTS Olympic
Canberra Cosmos v Marconi Fairfield
Collingwood Warriors v Melbourne Knights
Morwell Falcons v South Melbourne
Sydney United v Wollongong City
Newcastle Breakers v West Adelaide

ROUND 2 (week-ending 20th October)

Brisbane Strikers v Newcastle Breakers
UTS Olympic v Canberra Cosmos
Marconi Fairfield v Collingwood Warriors
Melbourne Knights v Morwell Falcons
South Melbourne v Sydney United
Wollongong City v Adelaide City
West Adelaide v Perth Glory

ROUND 3 (week-ending 27th October)

Brisbane Strikers v Wollongong City
Newcastle Breakers v Perth Glory
Canberra Cosmos v West Adelaide
Collingwood Warriors v UTS Olympic
Morwell Falcons v Marconi Fairfield
Sydney United v Melbourne Knights



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Youth League trials are to be held at Rydalmere Park
Sundays October 20, 27, November 3 and 10
U13 9.00am,
U14 10.30am,
U15 12noon,
U16 1.30pm

Junior League trials are to be held at Rydalmere Park
Saturdays October 19, 26, November 2 and 9
U11 2.00-2.30pm,
U12 3.30-5.00pm

Coaches and Managers required.

For further information contact Frank Howleson on 9633 3503 (AH)

Junior League players must reside within the Granville Association boundaries.



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